

CLAIMS

1. Apparatus for holding and supporting an infant comprising:

a base including

a proximal extremity, an opposing distal extremity, and an edge therebetween,

an inclined surface extending from the proximal extremity to the edge, and

a generally horizontal surface extending from the edge to distal extremity; and

a body-supporting harness assembly attached to the base and located atop the inclined surface, which is movable between a first body supporting position away from the general horizontal surface and a second position toward the generally horizontal surface.

2. Apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

the base having opposing sides;

an elongate first lateral guard attached to the inclined surface adjacent one of opposing sides of the base, and extending from proximate the proximal extremity to proximate the edge; and

an opposing elongate second lateral guard attached to the inclined surface adjacent the other of the opposing sides of the base, and extending from proximate the proximal extremity to proximate the edge;

wherein the first and second lateral guards cooperate to inhibit lateral movement of an infant positioned therebetween on the inclined surface.

3. Apparatus of claim 2, wherein the first lateral guard tapers upwardly from the proximal extremity of the base to the edge.

4. Apparatus of claim 2, wherein the second lateral guard tapers upward from the proximal extremity of the base to the edge.

5. Apparatus of claim 1, further comprising an elongate transverse body-supporting element attached to the inclined surface adjacent the proximal extremity.

6. Apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a vibrator attached to the base for vibrating the base.

7. Apparatus of claim 6, further comprising:

a pocket extending into the base underneath the generally horizontal surface; and

the vibrator disposed in the pocket.

8. Apparatus for holding and supporting an infant comprising:

a base including

a proximal extremity, an opposing distal extremity, and an edge therebetween,

an inclined surface extending from the proximal extremity to the edge,

a generally horizontal surface extending from the edge to distal extremity, and

a pocket extending into the base underneath the generally horizontal surface, which is adapted to receive therein a vibrator operable for vibrating the base; and

a body-supporting harness assembly attached to the base and located atop the inclined surface, which is movable between a first body supporting position away from the general horizontal surface and a second position toward the generally horizontal surface.

9. Apparatus of claim 8, further comprising a vibrator disposed in the pocket.

10. Apparatus of claim 8, further comprising:

the base having opposing sides;

an elongate first lateral guard attached to the inclined surface adjacent one of opposing sides of the base, and extending from proximate the proximal extremity to proximate the edge; and

an opposing elongate second lateral guard attached to the inclined surface adjacent the other of the opposing sides of the base, and extending from proximate the proximal extremity to proximate the edge;

wherein the first and second lateral guards cooperate to inhibit lateral movement of an infant positioned therebetween on the inclined surface.

11. Apparatus of claim 10, wherein the first lateral guard tapers upwardly from the proximal extremity of the base to the edge.

12. Apparatus of claim 10, wherein the second lateral guard tapers upward from the proximal extremity of the base to the edge.

13. Apparatus of claim 8, further comprising an elongate transverse body-supporting element attached to the inclined surface adjacent the proximal extremity.

14. Apparatus for holding and supporting an infant comprising:

a base including

opposing sides, opposing proximal and distal extremities, and a transverse edge between the proximal extremity and the distal extremity,

an inclined surface extending from the proximal extremity to the edge, and

a generally horizontal surface extending from the edge to distal extremity;

a body-supporting harness assembly attached to the base and located atop the inclined surface, which is movable between a first body supporting position away from the general horizontal surface and a second position toward the generally horizontal surface;

an elongate first lateral guard attached to the inclined surface adjacent one of opposing sides of the

base, and extending from proximate the proximal extremity to proximate the edge; and

an opposing elongate second lateral guard attached to the inclined surface adjacent the other of the opposing sides of the base, and extending from proximate the proximal extremity to proximate the edge;

wherein the first and second lateral guards cooperate to inhibit lateral movement of an infant positioned therebetween on the inclined surface.

15. Apparatus of claim 14, wherein the first lateral guard tapers upwardly from the proximal extremity of the base to the edge.

16. Apparatus of claim 14, wherein the second lateral guard tapers upward from the proximal extremity of the base to the edge.

17. Apparatus of claim 14, further comprising an elongate transverse body-supporting element attached to the

inclined surface adjacent the proximal extremity and to the first and second lateral supports.

18. Apparatus of claim 14, further comprising a vibrator attached to the base for vibrating the base.

19. Apparatus of claim 18, further comprising:

a pocket extending into the base underneath the generally horizontal surface; and

the vibrator disposed in the pocket.